

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Yasuhiko SHIINA et al.

Group Art Unit : 1645

Appl. No. : 10/573,324

Examiner : Oluwatosin OGUNBIYI

Filed : March 24, 2006

Confirmation No. : 4957

For : METHOD OF DETECTING OR DIFFERENTIATING RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS AND METHOD OF DETERMINING STAGE OF DISEASE OR DEGREE OF DYSFUNCTION WITH REGARD TO RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop After Final
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir :

This is in response to the Interview Summary dated March 29, 2010, and the Office Action mailed January 8, 2010, which sets a three-month shortened statutory period for response, to end April 8, 2010. Applicants respectfully submit that this response is timely filed and no fee is required for its consideration. However, if any extensions of time are necessary to maintain the pendency of this application, this is an express request for any required extension of time to maintain the pendency of the application, and authorization to charge any required fee to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Entry of the instant amendment, with reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5.